

Perhaps Florida International University's greatest academic achievement is the fact that it so earnestly works to provide an outstanding education to all students, regardless of socioeconomic background. Thanks in part to low tuition rates, and to the work ethic and frugality of FIU administrators, faculty, and staff, its students are the fifth least indebted in the Nation. U.S. News & World Report rates it as one of the 10 best educational buys in the United States.

Finally, Florida International University is one of the most diverse colleges in the United States that is increasingly benefited by its ethnic diversity. For the last 25 years, it has been training young adults to live, work, and succeed in a world that speaks multiple languages and celebrates a variety of cultural achievements. More than half of its student body is Hispanic, and the university produces more Hispanic graduates than any other university in America. All in all, it has 70,000 alumni that represent all 50 States and more than 146 countries.

Mr. President, I join with all Floridians in congratulating president Modesto Maidique and every past and present member of the Florida International University community on its historic 25th anniversary. As the university prepares to begin its next quarter-century, its abiding commitment to academic excellence, affordability, and diversity is leading the United States into the 21st century.●

TRIBUTE TO LESLIE LORD AND SCOTT E. PHILLIPS

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the memories of two brave New Hampshire State Troopers killed in the line of duty. Leslie Lord, 45, of Pittsburg and Scott E. Phillips, 32, of Colebrook both bravely gave their lives trying to protect others and stop a man wielding an automatic rifle throughout the town of Colebrook, New Hampshire on August 19th. Vickie Bunnell, a Colebrook District Court judge, and Dennis Joos, editor of the Sentinel newspaper, were also innocent victims in the shooting spree.

Leslie Lord was a 1974 graduate of Pittsburg High School and the next year graduated in the 25th class at the New Hampshire Police Academy. Later, Lord became the chief of police in his hometown, until January 16, 1987, when he resigned to become a state highway enforcement officer. After working as a state highway truck inspector, Lord became a state trooper for the Granite state in 1996.

Lord, who was not only a husband to Beverly, was also a father to two teenage boys, Cory and Shawn.

Scott Phillips was a 1984 graduate of White Mountain Regional High School in Whitefield and also a veteran of the U.S. Army. He served with the military police, including a tour of duty in Pan-

ama. In 1990, as a member of the 90th class at the State Police Academy, Phillips graduated an impressive 14th in a class of 38.

Phillips lived in Colebrook with his dear wife, Christine, their young son, Keenan, 2½, and their 1-year-old daughter, Clancy.

Both Troopers Lord and Phillips were known as dedicated, hardworking, and well-liked individuals by members of their respective communities.

Mr. President, the state of New Hampshire as well as the families of these fine state troopers have suffered a tremendous loss. I would like to commend the efforts of both men, for their actions were nothing short of heroic. I would also like to extend to the families of not only Lord and Phillips, but also of Vickie Bunnell and Dennis Joos, my deepest heartfelt sorrow and I pray that God watches over them. The memories of Leslie Lord and Scott E. Phillips will live on in all of the lives they have touched, for they were two remarkable and beloved individuals.●

TRIBUTE TO CONRAD RICHARD GAGNON, JR. AND MAUREEN E. CONNELLY

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Conrad Richard Gagnon, Jr. and Maureen E. Connelly who were named finalists in the second annual Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program.

The scholarship program is funded by a \$5 million endowment from the Samsung Group, an international company based in South Korea, and is administered by the American Legion, the world's largest veterans organization. Only direct decedents of U.S. wartime veterans are eligible for the scholarships.

Conrad and Maureen are among many other outstanding young Americans named as finalists to compete for one of ten college scholarships, each worth \$20,000. The students were judged on the basis of their involvement in their school and community, and for their academic achievements.

Conrad is a native of Bedford, New Hampshire and is currently in his senior year of high school. He is the son of Conrad and Gisele Gagnon, and has three bothers: Brian, Tim and Dan. His grandfather, Richard Adalard Gagnon, is a World War Two veteran.

Conrad has distinguished himself by achieving excellent grades, as well as being involved in numerous and varied activities. He is an associate editor of his school year book, a member of his school's math team, and French club. He has been awarded the Boy Scouts Order of the Arrow, and will travel to California and Japan this summer on the Sony Student Abroad scholarship. Conrad also participates in community service activities such as peer tutoring, food drives, and was involved in organizing an effort to place over one hundred of his peers in volunteer positions. He would like to study engineering and law in college.

Maureen is a resident of Greenland, New Hampshire. She attends Portsmouth High School. She is the daughter of Mark and Marian Connelly, and she has a sister Carolyn and a brother Steven. Her grandfather, Quentin Dante Halstead, served on active duty in World War Two, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

Maureen has earned outstanding grades in honors and advance placement classes. She is also very active on her school's field hockey team and track team. In addition she is a member of student government, serving in the capacity of treasurer, as well as a member of the school newspaper staff. Maureen volunteers her time to teach young children field hockey, and she maintains a job as a lifeguard. She is a senior in high school and would like to be a doctor.

Young men and women such as Conrad and Maureen are a valuable asset to New Hampshire and the future of the United States. I congratulate them on all their hard work and wish them success in their future endeavors.●

IN MEMORY OF CHAD WARREN

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today in memory of Chad Warren, a young, thoughtful and motivated man who recently passed away. Chad was only 25 years old when he unfortunately lost his life, only months away from his 26th birthday. He is an example to us all because of his sheer dedication to his job and his unconditional love for his family.

Working at the Goodhue Hawkins Navy Yard for the past six years, Chad became an invaluable employee and was also known as a friend to all. Hard working and dedicated are only mere words to epitomize Chad as a person. He started out as a boat washer and dockboy and soon progressed to a boat rigger and forklift operator. He then achieved certification as a boat mechanic. Mr. President, I admire Chad not only for his dedication but also for the heart he put into his service at the Navy Yard.

Prior to his employment, Chad was in Steve Durgan's Junior High Geography and U.S. History classes at Kingswood Regional Junior/Senior High School. Steve, a close personal friend of mine, described Chad as quiet, shy and thoughtful.

At such a young age, Chad was surrounded by many close, loving people. Besides his mother, Linda Morrill of Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, and his father, Paul Warren of Ashburnham, Massachusetts, Chad leaves his dear wife Sherri Warren and their young beloved children Corbin, 5 years old, Shane, 8 years old, and Amber, 12 years old. Chad was blessed to have these valuable people in his life.

Mr. President, to lose any life is a sad event. But to lose a young life, one full of energy, life, hopes and dreams is a tragedy. My heart and prayers go out